

7 May 1964

Dear Mike:

I appreciate the attention you gave to the matter I discussed with you on the telephone and, while I regret the decision you made as explained in your telegram of May 6th, nevertheless I recognize it is within your province to make such a decision.

I continue to be disturbed over the book. Perhaps I am unduly agitated but in my position trying to operate a very large world-wide organization properly in the interests of the United States and, indeed, Free World security, and in competition with most aggressive foreign intelligence services of the Soviet Union and other Communist states, I cannot help but be increasingly concerned with matters of security, protection of sources and methods, protection of cover and avoiding giving propaganda platforms to those who would like to destroy the effectiveness of this organization. This the book is designed to accomplish and the extensiveness of your readership will, I am afraid, enormously assist.

With respect to your observation that there is little told in the book that is new, I agree that most of the things said have been said before in one form or another. However it is one thing for an isolated statement to appear in a news report or in a column, occasionally by writers of questionable responsibility, and it is quite another thing to assemble the whole spectrum of statements into one book and defend this publication on the basis of these references. I continue to feel that this book will do great harm to the United States and to the Free World and will afford the Communist movement a great propaganda weapon.

I, like you, understand that both Mr. Ross and Mr. Wise are competent, respected Washington correspondents. They represent responsible papers. However you will be interested in a memorandum of conversation that I had with these gentlemen on August 20, 1963 in which they informed me of the book which they had in mind writing. I invited them to return and discuss the book as their work progressed. This they failed to do although Mr. Wise lunched with me in my office 10 days ago and failed to mention the book. I asked that they submit the transcript

to be checked for accuracy and for security. This they failed to do. In opening the book they indicate that they are not breaching security; however I can find no one responsible for protecting security to whom they submitted their transcript. Certainly it was not brought to our attention.

Finally, there are some areas of this book which involve disclosures of a most damaging nature. Since you undoubtedly will be publishing only sections of the book and your readership will be many, many times that of the book itself, I ask that you give consideration to eliminating these particular paragraphs or references. If this is agreeable I would like to have General Marshall S. Carter, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, call on you promptly and point out the particular points I have in mind with the hopes that they might be eliminated from your articles. I will call you tomorrow to see if this suggestion has merit from your standpoint.

Regards,

Signed

John A. McConse
Director

Attachment

Memo of Conv. - David Wise & DCI on 20 August 1963

JAM/mfb

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

Sent via AirMail Special Delivery

lcc - DDCI w/cy attch.

lcc - DCI alphabetic w/cy attch.

lcc - DCI chrono - no attch.

Mr. Gardner Cowles
LOOK MAGAZINE
488 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

JAM/mfb

20 August 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

The Director, at lunch today, saw Tom Ross, CHICAGO SUN TIMES, and David Wise, NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, who are writing a book covering the subject of United States intelligence to be published by Random House next spring. At the luncheon with the DCI and the two newspapermen was Colonel Grogan. The conference continued in the Director's private dining room until 1410 hours.

The Director, at the outset, said he thought that any articles or books about intelligence were undesirable from the viewpoint of an intelligence officer. They said that on the Hill they had heard much talk of a Watch-Dog Committee for the CIA. The Director went into some detail in explaining how the few people on such committees who receive all the information are reluctant to share their knowledge with other members of the Congress not on these special committees. He told of experiences with the Atomic Energy Commission Joint Committee which did not pass on information to the Foreign Relations Committee. He explained in answer to a question that there are three committees now known as CIA subcommittees, and the reason there isn't a fourth is because members of the Senate CIA Subcommittee are also members of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. The membership of the CIA subcommittees is not public, he said.

Mr. McCone thought the present relationship with the Congress is quite satisfactory as is the relationship of the CIA with the State Department, Defense Department, and White House, our principal customers. He explained his duties as Director of Central Intelligence under the law and under the President's directive of 16 January 1962. He explained the functioning of the USIB and of the Board of National Estimates and the relationships between DIA and CIA. He went into some detail into the functioning of the estimators on the Board, how they are staffed by the ODI, how USIB passes on what estimates are to be made and the priority, and on the Director's own responsibility for the final product.

There was some discussion of public relations and the desire of CIA for anonymity. At the conclusion, Mr. McCone said he might later see them again if they so wished and perhaps go more into the structure of CIA and the changes he has made. He suggested that maybe they would

like to submit their copy when they have finished. They said they would have to think that over. He asked them to discuss it with me. They did. They are reluctant but will think it over. I pointed out that it would be helpful to them. We might discover errors. We might point out some violations of national security; and having done that without attribution, the final decision would be theirs as to whether they accept or don't accept our suggestions.

They said they are very anxious to come back again after they do some writing and have another session with the Director. They asked if they might interview General Cartor, Mr. Helms, and Mr. Kirkpatrick. I told them that since the Director had seen them, no one else in the Agency would be made available. They said this was quite satisfactory.

Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P

DDCI wanted you to see the attached. Re the last paragraph, he will ask you to join him in any meeting with Cowles.

As regards meeting with [] DCI concurs with DDCI's suggestion that you meet with [] to discuss possible deletions. General Carter would like to confer with you before such a meeting to discuss whatever is to be taken up with []

[]
H. Knoche
7 May 64
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)